

League Tables as at April 15th, 1950


First Division								Goals							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	P		P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Sandringham City	4	3	1	0	10	4	7	F.N.D.	4	3	1	0	18	2	7
South Yarra	4	3	0	1	7	4	6	JUST	4	3	1	0	23	3	7
Sunshine United	4	3	0	1	9	6	6	Vic. Police	4	3	0	1	13	7	6
Box Hill	3	2	1	0	15	7	5	Moorabbin	4	2	1	1	20	4	5
Prahran	4	2	0	2	12	13	4	Olympic	3	2	0	1	9	6	4
Brighton	4	1	1	2	10	10	3	Brighton	4	1	1	2	14	12	3
Park Rangers	4	1	0	3	6	7	2	Park Rangers	4	1	0	3	9	17	2
Hakoah	3	1	0	2	5	8	2	Box Hill	3	1	0	2	6	15	2
Footscray City	4	1	0	3	8	13	2	Bentleigh	4	1	0	3	8	18	2
Moreland	4	0	1	3	2	12	1	Macedonians	4	0	0	4	1	37	0
Second Division								First Division Reserves							
Preston	4	3	0	1	23	8	6	South Yarra	4	4	0	0	14	3	8
Yallourn	4	2	1	1	25	12	5	Park Rangers	4	3	0	1	14	7	6
Juventus	4	2	1	1	11	6	5	Sandringham City	4	3	0	1	10	6	6
George Cross	2	2	0	0	3	1	4	Brighton	4	3	0	1	11	6	6
West Suburbs	3	2	0	1	15	6	4	Prahran	4	2	0	2	14	4	4
South Melbourne	3	2	0	1	16	9	4	Hakoah	3	2	0	1	7	7	4
Yarraville	4	2	0	2	6	20	4	Box Hill	3	1	0	2	3	7	2
Ringwood	4	1	0	3	8	21	2	Sunshine United	4	1	0	3	6	16	2
Melbourne University	2	0	0	2	2	7	0	Footscray	4	0	0	4	5	14	0
Heidelberg	4	0	0	4	3	22	0	Moreland	4	0	0	4	6	16	0
Third Division (North)								Second Division Reserves							
White Eagles	4	4	0	0	31	4	8	Yallourn	4	4	0	0	29	3	8
Fifers	4	3	0	1	15	8	6	West Suburbs	4	3	0	1	21	7	6
Geelong Celtic	3	2	1	0	12	6	5	Preston	4	3	0	1	8	5	6
Melbourne Rangers	3	2	0	1	13	10	4	South Melbourne	4	2	0	2	8	4	4
Williamstown	3	2	0	1	1	10	4	Juventus	4	2	0	2	7	15	4
Royal Caledonians	3	1	0	2	8	11	2	George Cross	3	1	0	2	4	7	2
Coburg	4	1	0	3	9	17	2	Melbourne University	2	1	0	1	2	8	2
International Harvester	3	0	1	2	6	7	1	Heidelberg	3	1	0	2	5	20	2
Woodlands	4	0	0	4	6	26	0	Yarraville	3	0	0	3	1	5	0
Metters	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	Ringwood	3	0	0	3	0	11	0
								Third Division Reserves							
								Williamstown	2	2	0	0	19	4	4
								Woodlands	3	2	0	1	6	7	4
								Olympic	2	1	0	1	8	0	2
								Coburg	1	0	0	1	3	4	0
								Fifers	2	0	0	2	1	15	0
								Moorabbin	1	0	0	1	0	8	0

Junior Amateur League Tables as at April 15th, 1950


Under 19 "A" Section								Under 16 Division							
South Yarra	2	2	0	0	12	2	4	Brighton	4	4	0	0	13	2	8
Sunshine United	3	2	0	1	11	5	4	Northcote	4	4	0	0	12	2	8
Army Apprentices	2	2	0	0	4	3	4	South Melb. United	4	3	0	1	9	3	6
Box Hill	2	2	0	0	2	1	4	Box Hill	4	3	0	1	14	5	6
Brighton	2	1	0	1	4	2	2	Sandringham City	4	3	0	1	10	4	6
Sandringham City	3	1	0	2	6	10	2	Park Rangers	4	1	0	3	4	10	2
Park Rangers	3	0	0	3	3	19	0	Ringwood	4	1	0	3	4	10	2
Hakoah	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	Sunshine United	4	1	0	3	2	1	
								Preston	4	0	0	4	1		
Under 19 "B" Section								Under 14 Division							
Preston	4	4	0	0	21	1	8	South Yarra	4	0	0	4	1	18	0
Yallourn	3	3	0	0	7	2	6	Under 14 Division							
Coburg	4	2	1	1	11	6	5	Sunshine United	4	2	2	0	19	1	6
Moorabbin	4	2	1	1	10	9	5	Box Hill	3	3	0	0	13	2	6
Yarraville	3	1	2	0	7	3	4	Western Suburbs	3	3	0	0	13	2	6
Ringwood	3	2	0	1	8	8	4	Park Rangers	3	2	0	1	15	2	4
South Melb. United	4	1	0	3	8	7	2	Bentleigh	4	2	0	2	7	5	4
Juventus	3	0	1	2	3	11	1	Coburg	4	2	0	2	12	11	4
Metters	4	0	1	3	3	19	1	Preston	4	2	0	2	17	21	4
Northcote	4	0	0	4	2	14	0	Sth. Melb. Untd. "A"	4	1	1	2	11	7	3
								Sandringham City	3	1	1	1	3	7	3
								Sth. Melb. Untd. "B"	4	1	0	3	2	13	2
								Brighton	4	1	0	3	2	14	2
								Highett N.F.	4	0	0	4	1	30	0

Under 19 "A" Section.—Box Hill awarded walk-over against Hakoah on April 1. Sunshine United awarded walk-over against Hakoah on April 8. Army Apprentices awarded walk-over against Hakoah on April 15.

Under 14 Division.—Box Hill versus Western Suburbs match not played on April 10. Park Rangers versus Sandringham City match not played on April 15.



Soccer News



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VICTORIAN AMATEUR SOCCER FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

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A FINE SAVE BY A FINE GOALIE



—Photo by "Argus."

BILLY SINCLAIR
BILLY SINCLAIR, Brighton goalie, punches a high shot over the bar at practice. (An article by Billy Sinclair on Goalkeeping appears in this week's Junior Section.)

Editorial

All communications re "Soccer News" must be sent to the Editor, V. J. M. Dixon, 40 Beach Road, Hampton.



The near record gate at Surrey Park last Saturday, when Box Hill entertained Sandringham City, proves the old saying that nothing succeeds like success. Starting late in the season, the Hillmen are so far unbeaten, and the fact that their opponents have yet to suffer a League defeat created extra interest.

First Division surprise was the defeat of Prahran by Sunshine at Como Park. After their early success Prahran have been rather inconsistent, whilst Sunshine appear to be hard to beat, particularly at home.

Game of the day was undoubtedly Box Hill v. Sandringham, and one shrewd judge was heard to say it was the best game he had seen since Victoria v Jugo-Slavs last year. A draw was a fitting result.

A series of upsets in the Second Division included the defeat of the two leaders, Preston and Yallourn by clubs much lower down the ladder, Juventus and South Melbourne. Western Suburbs hit the jack-pot with a 10-0 win over Yarraville.

In the Third Division (North), White Eagles also had a 10-0 victory over Williamstown, while in the southern section the Navy decisively unseated the League leaders, Police, by 5-1.

Mention of the unfortunate incident at Middle Park a fortnight ago has so far been avoided in these columns until the League Management Committee had time to deal with the offenders. All lovers of soccer will approve of the severe action taken by the Disciplinary Committee in the case of the club concerned. Many newcomers from overseas may not realise the hard fight which has been waged by association and club officials to make soccer a force in Victoria. However, were they aware of the delight with which such incidents are seized upon by enthusiasts of certain other codes, they might pause and think twice before putting on such a degrading exhibition—even if their own sense of fair play is not sufficient deterrent.

It is interesting to see the fine game of football being put on by the two Jugo-Slav teams. Melbourneites had ample evidence that these gentry could play football during the visit of the touring team last season, but for the Jugo-Slav community of Melbourne to be able to form two separate clubs, each of which is outstanding in its own division, is indeed a remarkable performance. White Eagles with excellent goal average of 31-4, are way ahead of their nearest rivals, Fifers, in the Third Division (North), and JUST are second, only on goal average, to the Navy in the southern section; and Navy were only able to draw with them when the two teams met. It leaves one wondering what kind of a team these Jugo-Slavs could put up if the two clubs were to unite. But, at any rate, it is a great credit to the two clubs concerned and Messrs Marcovitch (White Eagles) and Kuketz (JUST), secretaries and founders of the respective clubs.

Owing to the sudden illness of the Editor, we trust that any slight errors or omissions will be excused.

Win or Lose . . . Drink the Good Beer at

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LOOK AFTER YOUR GROUND

By RICHARD DREYFUS

In this, the 1950 soccer season, there are many technical problems before the Association in general and clubs in particular.

Shortage of experienced referees for the thirty-two odd Senior and nineteen Junior games every week is just one example of the difficulties with which the Association has endeavored to come to grips.

But there is one problem which concerns all clubs and the Association alike—and that is the state of the grounds on which teams have to play.

We all are aware that some clubs have only been granted use of their ground after insistent pleading with local Councils, who then have given them the very worst bit of land in the municipality.

However, there is no rule which prevents club members going down to their "island" during the week and improving it by levelling the high, rough spots, filling in the many bad pot-holes and marking the field properly in anticipation of Saturday's match.

One of the greatest dangers to players is that concrete cricket pitch, which invariably cuts right across the playing area and sometimes even into the penalty square. On two grounds this season—Footscray City's at South Kingsville and Hakoah's at Yarra Park, highly dangerous concrete wickets have marred the field.

At Kingsville, turf chips on which players "slid all over the place," had been scattered over the pitch, while at Yarra Park the wicket was completely uncovered. Imagination bogs at what will happen when a fast-travelling player slips and falls heavily on one of these concrete slabs.

The aspect which concerns the association and its umpires is whether such a ground is really fit to play on.

At Kingsville the ground was literally flooded also. Through one of the goals a pretty little brook was flowing, making the task of the goalkeeper extremely difficult.

It was completely impossible for any player to obtain even a semblance of a foothold, some sinking at times into the water to well over the top of their boots.

Without malice towards the referee, I was surprised to hear him declare the ground a fit one for 22 men to play on. To this day I am amazed no one was seriously hurt—it was pure luck.

Naturally, any resemblance between the game the players "swam" and soccer was purely coincidental. But then, very little else could have been expected from anyone on such a water-logged ground.

Postponement of matches is a nuisance to the club and the Association alike, but in the interests of soccer and the health of its players, referees should exercise their prerogative and cancel a game scheduled for one of these dangerous grounds.

In conclusion, let's all do our bit in improving our ground. We'll impress the councils and our own opponents—and play a much better game of soccer.

IS THIS YOUR CLUB?



ARE you going to let these youngsters stand on the line indefinitely? For their good and the good of the game—and to perpetuate your club—START A JUNIOR TEAM NOW. For information regarding Junior Clubs and Teams, contact Mr. J. A. OLSEN, Hon. Secretary Victorian Junior Soccer Football Association, 314 Inkerman Street, St. Kilda, S.2.

SECRETARY'S NOTES

ASSOCIATION'S LETTER TO GEORGE CROSS

Secretary, George Cross S.C.

Dear Sir,—I have to inform you of the League Management decision following incidents at the South Melbourne v. George Cross match on 10/4/50.

The George Cross club shall be suspended for four weeks and will not be eligible to play until May 13, 1950.

The three players concerned in the incidents must be produced before the Disciplinary Committee on Wednesday, April 19, at 31 Queen Street, Melbourne, at 7.30 p.m. sharp. Failure to produce players will result in further penalty being imposed.

Police protection must be provided by the George Cross club for all home and away matches for the first team.

A fine of £25 has been placed on the club, £10 to be paid before suspension is lifted, i.e. inside four weeks, and the balance to be paid over three months.

The George Cross club is reminded that previous warnings have been issued to the club.

Yours faithfully,
S. BEATON,

Secretary, Victorian Amateur Soccer Football Association.

* * *

KICK OFFS.

The League Management has decided that all matches shall start at 2.45 p.m. sharp.

GIPPSLAND GLEANINGS

SUGGESTIONS FROM AN OLD-TIMER

Sir,—I have read the last two copies of your paper, namely "Soccer News," and look forward to your Pertinent Pars about players and clubs. Need I mention the fact; it's a tremendous stride from 1923, when the Old District System prevailed in Adelaide, S.A. At that time soccer, you might say, was practically in its infancy. Of course, we had to toddle before we could walk. Now we're running a good race, as it were, and the time is not so far distant when the controlling body here will have to get busy and obtain a suitable ground in order to put on representative games on an annual interstate basis. We need a "Soccer Week," where we can show off the best available players and clubs, and also foster the sport still further. I've just recently arrived in Victoria from South Australia, where at one time I played for several seasons and also acted as secretary from 1928 to 1929. I've received an eye-opener here in Yallourn since coming to work here. The Social Club committee here can be commended, and very highly, too, for their diligent and painstaking efforts on behalf of Yallourn. We got off with a good start, Mr. Editor, as 24 goals for 2 teams is nice going. But don't get a new hat yet. We have some very up and coming players here at present and all are very keen. Our fortnightly socials and dances have proved a big success, and may our Ladies' Social committee still be able to carry on their good work. Our Five a Side competition is expected to help us to spur more talent, also to provide some with a game to keep their interest centred on the soccer code. We have secured the services of Mr. Frank McIvor as coach for the present season. He has done excellent work here for the Juniors.—Yours, etc.,

"ONE OF THE HAS-BEENS."

* * *

SECRETARIES, PLEASE NOTE!

If secretaries will persist in sending Postal Notes and Stamps for payment of "Soccer News," please send stamps that are useful for postage, such as 1½d. or 2½d. stamps, as high values are useless for general purposes.—WALLY TUNN.

* * *

NOTICE

"Soccer News" wants good photographs of players, action shots, and officials. If you have any that you think suitable for reproduction, send them along.

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By PERCY SEARLE

GUESS WHO?

Former Brighton star of a few years ago is now mine host at the Orient Hotel, Bairnsdale. A prolific goal-scorer at outside-left, soccer fans will wish him well. A.1 at Lloyds.

GRAND STRUGGLE

Box Hill's duel on Easter Monday was a soccer gem. The dramatic struggle for victory was worthy of two great fighting teams. A story-book winning goal was the climax.

AIR TRIPS?

Intending trips to Adelaide by Moreland plus visits by Metters and Woonona (N.S.W.) to Victoria, prompts the question whether either of the clubs are travelling by plane. If costs were reasonable we could envisage "air specials" for supporters, too!

THAT THROW-IN

Who is the longest thrower of a ball in Victorian soccer? Some overseas stars' throws are as good as corner kicks. Very few in Melbourne could reach 35 yards, achieved by Patrick Thistles' half-back, Jacky Husband.

SCHOOLBOY PIONEERS

Pioneers of International Schoolboy soccer were the South Australian Schoolboys, who in 1927 sent a team to New Zealand.

SORROWING SCOTS

The England v. Scotland broadcast kept many local soccer enthusiasts glued to their wireless sets during the early hours of Sunday morning. Conversation heard since shows the keenness with which these big games are followed. Incidentally, Scottish faces are not so bright these days.

TOM AND "POP"

Listeners will have noticed that Tom Finney, on the England right-wing figured prominently in the play. It may not be generally known that Tom is a nephew of popular "Pop" Finney, one time of Brighton and now vice-president of Sandringham City.

CHANGE OF SCENERY

A confidential whisper is that all is not well with a prominent centre-forward. Rumour has it that he will soon be asking for a transfer, from the sea-side to the Hills.

THE RIGHT SPIRIT

When a club president, who hasn't played for 10 years, turns out in a Reserve game when they were a man short, I'd say he's keen. This happened at Coburg last week. Mr. McCarthy is deserving of every support.

BIG GATE

Heard that takings at the big game on Saturday between Box Hill and Sandringham was a record for Surrey Park. Further evidence that good soccer must draw the crowds.

KNOW YOUR CLUBS—4

NAVY

Navy team from Flinders, which this year is playing in the Third Division (South), is largely composed of ex-members of the crew of H.M.A.S. Sydney, who brought the carrier out from England. The club owes its formation to the efforts of Warrant-Signalman MacKenzie, who laid the foundations last year when Navy played a series of friendly games, but were too late to enter the competition proper.

Mainstay of the side is ex-schoolboy international, "Ginger" Hollis, who was once on the books of well-known English professional side, Newcastle United.

Second red-head in the side is O'Brien, left-back, a newcomer this year. Other Tyne-siders in the side include Geordie Dearborn (outside-right) and inside-right Davidson. Prominent also in the team are Frank Abbs (centre-forward), Paddy Murphy (left-half), and Jimmie Livingstone (inside-left), also from Newcastle.

Years ago Navy were always a force to be reckoned with, winning the Dockerty Cup and providing many of Victoria's finest players—some of whom are coaching today (including "Tich" Thorpe, of Park Rangers).

The new bunch of "tars" appear to be equally as tough as their forebears. Beginning the season with a 5-0 victory over Box Hill on Saturday last they drew with a very strong JUST team and will obviously be well in the running to win the League.



Photo by "Argus."

DAVE DICKSON, Park Rangers' right-half, bringing a rising ball under control.

CLUB JOTTINGS

Owing to the great keenness of clubs to get their notes in at present, we regret that these notes must be limited to about 200 words per club each issue. We trust that any correspondent whose notes have had to be "pruned" will understand.—(Ed.).

SOUTH YARRA

South Yarra will hold a card evening (whist) at Mr. T. Sharpe's home on Saturday, April 22, at 8 p.m.. All members, players and supporters are welcome. The address is: Mr. T. Sharpe, 53 Graham Street, Albert Park. Roll along, all you Yarra supporters.

SOUTH YARRA RESERVES, 3, v. HAKOAH RESERVES, 0

Hakoah had more of the play in the early stages, as South Yarra, with a few changes, were finding it hard to combine. Play was ragged, with both defences showing out, but a mistake by the Hakoah goalie saw Hallasley open the score. Half-time, 1—0.

In the second half Yarra was on top and quickly forged ahead when Mesbit added number two. Hakoah played good football, but their finishing was poor, and South Yarra went farther ahead when D. Sharpe scored with a good shot. With three goals to the good, South Yarra seemed to be settling down, and the game ended with Yarra well on top.

HAKOAH v. SOUTH YARRA

This game was played at Yarra Park on Saturday last. Hakoah attacked from the start and some stubborn defensive work was witnessed from the Yarra defence. Then Yarra broke away and excellent ball work enabled the play to be carried into Hakoah's danger zone; but Yarra failed to press home the advantage. The game then swung from one end to the other, with both sides missing opportunities of scoring through wild shooting. Play then settled down and from a scrimmage in the goalmouth Hakoah opened the scoring. Half-time saw the scores, Hakoah, 1; South Yarra, 0.

Upon resuming, South Yarra began to increase the pace of the game and the steady pressure saw Hakoah's defence weaken. A quick move from Yarra's left flank saw Sharman well up with the ball and with a brilliant left foot shot levelled the scores. Later Tainsh hit the crossbar with a terrific drive, but Hakoah cleared the ball well up the field. Yarra defence was on top now, controlling nearly every move that Hakoah made. A good forward pass to Beatty enabled him to take the ball well in and his well-placed pass was accepted by Stoddard, who nipped around Hakoah's left-back and drove the ball very smartly into the net, giving South Yarra the game. Final scores were: South Yarra 2; Hakoah 1.

SUNSHINE UNITED

Following are results of the games played by our five teams on Saturday last:—Under 14 defeated Coburg, 8—0, at Sunshine; Under 16 defeated Preston, 2—1, at Sunshine; Under 19 defeated Park Rangers, 9—0, at Albert Park; First Division Reserves defeated Prahran, 2—1, at Sunshine; First Division defeated Prahran, 3—2, at Como Park.

After being in arrears (2—0) at half-time, Sunshine boys finished the strongest and deserved the win. It was a good game and the inside-left (Ron Lowe) seems to have struck form again; he scored 2 goals and 4 goals. Against Hakoah the centre-forward (Len Lindgren) scored the first goal—a good one.

JUVENTUS RESERVES, 2, v. PRESTON RESERVES, 1

A very interesting match was played at Preston, where Juventus Reserves defeated Preston Reserves after trailing in the first half. Juventus added 2 goals in the second half and finished very strongly. Their defence was outstanding.

COBURG SOCCER CLUB

Coburg soccer club had a mixed run of luck on Saturday last, Seniors losing 6—0, Reserves 4—3, Schoolboys 8—0 and the Juniors won, 8—0. But nevertheless, we are quite a happy family, and there is plenty of room for new talent to build up the club. I would like to congratulate the young referee who managed the schoolboys at Sunshine on the 15th. It is the calibre of these young referees we want to encourage the soccer game along.

Our first dance, held on Friday night the 14th, was a great success, socially and financially. Next dance will be held on May 12 at Coburg Football Pavilion; same price, etc.

The ladies' committee are doing a grand job, but still could do with a few more workers—players' mothers and sisters.

By reports the Geelong trip was quite a success, as all expenses were covered. Good work, supporters and players.. Geelong Celtic seems to be a team to be reckoned with, and no doubt will go far this season; so look out for surprises during the cup matches.

I wish it to be known through your paper also that there is a number of school children (of the new arrivals) attending Fawkner State School. They are anxious to secure soccer balls. So now is the time to help them. Clubs interested can send balls along, knowing that they will be greatly appreciated.

BRIGHTON

Our Critics caught Brighton, with Alec Ban celebrating his return to the game with 3 brilliant goals, reducing Footscray to easy meat. At any rate, after a promising opening, Footscray wilted. Taylor and Smiley accurate in attack. Lithuanians, Vuchews and Langis not yet at top. Kiss, Footscray goalie, prominent. Referee capably handled the game. Disappointing crowd.

Save our Native Fauna No. 5



Two mammals alone in the world lay eggs, thus providing the scientist's "missing link" with the lower animals. Both are Australian: the Platypus is one, and the other is the Echidna (*Tachyglossus aculeatus*) which wanders in the open forest in search of ants and termites. It is protected by a coat of prickles superficially like those of the Porcupine to which, however, it is not related. A full grown specimen may weigh four or five pounds; but its mouth is less than half an inch wide, and toothless. It has to catch insects almost constantly with its long sticky tongue to survive. It has stout claws for breaking open ant nests.

(Advertisement of Carlton & United Breweries Ltd., Makers of Victoria Bitter, a healthful beverage).

JUVENTUS, 5, v. PRESTON, 1

The game played at Royal Park resulted in a fast, open match, where Juventus, the home team, beat Preston, 5-1, but only after a hard struggle. The score was not indicative of the game though, as Preston went down with colors flying. The large crowd in attendance obviously enjoyed watching the short precision passing of both teams. Juventus were smarter to the ball and co-ordinated better than the visiting team, but credit must be given to Preston for the way they kept fighting back gamely, even when trailing badly. Credit cannot be given to any one player on the winning side, as each played up to his best form and all combined well in both attack and defence.

PARK RANGERS RESERVES v. SOUTH YARRA

This match was played at Middle Park. In the first few minutes the ball was moved quickly from one end of the field to the other, both goals having narrow escapes. Then an attack by the Rangers resulted in Forrest scoring.

Yarra made several good moves and had the home defenders on their toes, but at last Yarra broke through and a perfect shot from Lamb gave Asling his chance. Shortly after this, Wilson placed Rangers ahead again. Then Yarra (always dour opponents) gave Rangers' goalie plenty of work to do, and ten minutes before half-time Hawkes levelled the score. Half-time, 2-2.

Resuming play, both sides put everything they knew into the game and it was a ding-dong battle, but the contestants were tiring as the pace was hot. Lamb, racing away, placed a neat centre over to Dall, who headed the ball accurately past Asling, giving Yarra the lead. Final scores were, Park Rangers Reserves, 2 goals; South Yarra Reserves, 3 goals.

WILLIAMSTOWN

Easter Saturday again saw Williamstown Firsts given a walk-over, this time from Metters, who were unable to field a team. This meant that we had to wait until the Monday to make our debut for season 1950. Then Williamstown journeyed to Coburg, where a very fast and hard game was played right up to the final whistle.

From the commencement of the game the pace was on, with no quarters given or asked for, first Coburg having the advantage, then Williamstown. The pace was maintained until K. Ritter sent in a glorious long drive and scored. Williamstown were unfortunate in losing Jock Coulter, their left-back, with a leg injury, and played the last half with 10 men. A grand display of goal-keeping was turned on by Len Foster for 'town, and spectators and players alike showed their appreciation. After a hard-fought game Williamstown retained their lead and ran out winners, 1-0. Best for 'Town:—Armato, Foster, Harrop.

Easter Saturday 'Town Reserves met Woodland Reserves and proved to be the better team of the day, defeating Woodlands 6-1. Best for 'Town:—Mo Ritter, Jarvis. On the Monday the Reserve Division had no games.

BRIGHTON S.F.C.

A social and dance was held in the Spink's Street Hall, Gardenvale, on Saturday, April 15. The opportunity was taken at this function to present to the First and Reserve League teams a trophy to celebrate the winning of the League championships. Twenty-six silver-plated tankards were presented.

Prominent among those present were Mr. Alec Kerr and Mr. S. Beaton, of the Soccer Council, and Mr. Stevens, secretary, and Jackie Wilson, of the Park Rangers soccer club, who were the guests of the club for the evening.

Tommy Jack (Brightons' captain) was presented with a cheque for £20. Both Tommy Jack and Jackie Wilson were enthusiastically acclaimed by the large crowd present.

Just before supper the club was honored with a visit by the Mayor and Mayoress of Brighton (Cr. and Mrs. D. Granter). The Mayor, in his remarks, wished Tommy and Jackie the best of luck, and stated his belief that they would be worthy representatives of their club, their State and their country. Both players, with Mr. Hodgkinson, the President of Brighton, were invited to be present at the Council Chambers on Monday, April 17, at 8 p.m.

SANDRINGHAM CITY

Sandringham City would like to congratulate the Box Hill club on the way their ground was roped off and marked, also for the nice ceremony before the match, when the pennant that the Under 15 Box Hill team won last season was unfurled.

In what was a hard, bustling game, the City came out with colors flying, as all the daily papers had forecast a lacing for Sandy. The 'Hammers were hard pressed to keep the Hillmen out in the second half, but full credit must go to the 'Hammers' defence, which stood out.

The Reserve team, with another good win, are well up the ladder, and with a few improvements should have a big say in their premiership.

The City have arranged a trip down to Flinders Naval Depot on Sunday, May 14. All interested supporters contact D. Bingham at the ground, or 80 Sandringham Road, S.8.

Plans are well in hand for the visit to Woonona Bulli on King's Birthday week-end. On the Sunday Sandringham and Woonona will be visiting Wonthaggi to stage an exhibition game in aid of Wonthaggi Hospital. This game will be preceded by an Old Buffers' match between local old soccer players. After the match both teams will be entertained at the Wonthaggi Working Mens' Club. On the Monday at the Hampton ground the big game will be on.

Norm Shingles, one of the hardest worked men in the City club has got the Junior teams working well; he has the able support of young John Phillips, an under 19 Junior. Keep it up, John, the club appreciates your work!

Club supporters, attend our regular dance, Hampton Memorial Hall on Friday, April 28. Admission is 2/- and good prizes will be offered and supper supplied.

**SOCCER EQUIPMENT****New English Soccer Boots**

Wide fitting, comfortable last, solid black toes with a strap across the joint. In sizes 5-11, also half-sizes ... 37/6

KNICKS—Tailored finest quality English Swansdown, cut on the approved pattern, in black or white ... 9/6

ALL-WOOL HOSE

In popular club colors in hooped designs, price ... 8/4

In a variety of colored tops ... 7/11

In plain colors ... 6/2

JERSEYS

All cotton soccer jerseys in popular club colors and various designs ... 26/6

ATHLETIC SUPPORTS

"ATLAS" new V-front models, all elastic, S.M., M., O.S. Price ... 6/6

SOCCER STOPS

Genuine English round stops 1/- doz.

MELBOURNE SPORTS DEPOT

55 Elizabeth Street and 255 Swanston Street, Melb. MU 7244

CORIO CORNER

SOCCER BACK IN GEELONG

By H. E. WARD

On Easter Saturday, a crowd of between two and three hundred people turned out to see International Harvesters and Geelong Celtic put on the best game of soccer ever seen on the shores of Corio Bay.

It was a local "derby" in every sense of the word, and a 3-3 draw was a satisfying result. All the incidents and thrills of a local teams' clash in the "Old Country" were there, and every spectator went away happy in the knowledge of an afternoon well spent.

One elderly Scot was heard to remark, "Ah've waited twenty years for this!"

Well, Jock, we sincerely hope you'll be seeing many more in the future.

This was not the first time, however, that soccer has been played in Geelong. Before the last war, there was a flourishing Geelong and District League. Two shields and a cup still repose in the vault of a local Bank. The outbreak of hostilities in 1939 put an end to the League, and the game soon faded from the public memory.

The present soccer "boom" really began last September, when about sixty student teachers from Britain arrived in Geelong to form the nucleus of the new Teachers' Training College.

Unimpressed by "Aussie Rules," they soon yearned for "real football." A ball was purchased, and for many weeks, each evening saw nine or ten diehards kicking it about on the lawn of the sedate residence in which they lived.

Ambitious, they formed a club, and resolved to apply for admission to the V.S.F.A. Frank McGarry, the secretary and driving force behind the club, accordingly went off to Melbourne to press his case with Mr. Beaton.

Meanwhile, over at the International Harvester Company's great factory, another group of British migrants were thinking and acting on the same lines. The two groups met one night—by chance—in a popular hostelry, and it was not long before Geelong was possessed of two soccer clubs.

Whilst awaiting the decision of the V.S.F.A., both clubs went into active recruiting players (by no means an easy task), arranging practice games and generally trying to publicise their efforts.

Then came the welcome news that "Geelong Celtic" (the name has some connection with Glasgow) were to play in the Third Division (North), and I.H.C. were included in the Reserves League. So the season started.

The most important development came on Thursday, April 6, when it was learned that the "Harvesters" were to go into the Third Division (North) to take the place of Northcote. This meant that they were to meet "Celtic" on the following Saturday.

Hurried preparations were made. The game was announced in the local press, and the battle was on. Soccer was back on the map in Geelong!

Plans are already afoot to make the next "Derby" match a bigger and better affair, so that never again will soccer be merely a memory in Geelong.

Both players and supporters are indebted to the "Geelong Advertiser" for the publicity given to the sport, and to all who have done and are doing so much to provide our Saturday afternoon entertainment.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Readers are invited to send along queries, suggestions, etc., to the Editor. All will be given appropriate consideration.



Owing to lack of space, letters should not exceed 150 words.—(Ed.).

Sir,—With a view to extending the sale of "Soccer News" and pushing the game, I would suggest that a free competition, forecasting results of games each week, be included in your future editions, on either the First or Second Division or both, with a small prize or prizes to commence. Tatts Tickets would be an incentive as prizes to try their skill. This would not incur much expense, and should the future circulation warrant it, the reward could be increased accordingly. As an alternative, a cash prize could be allowed to snowball each week, until a correct forecast is made. This will entail a little more work for your staff, but should be worth the effort. Trusting this meets with your approval,

W.MORLEY.

Club Members!



Are there Club Notes from Your Club in this issue of

"SOCCER NEWS?"

If Not — Don't blame this paper. It is your Club which is at fault!

Make sure your press correspondent forwards the Club's Jottings

To the Editor, MR. V. J. M. DIXON, 40 Beach Road, Hampton

By Monday Mornings Post

EVERY WEEK

JUNIOR SECTION

TECHNICAL SCHOOLS OPEN SEASON ON APRIL 26

The Victorian Technical Schools Sports Union will open its soccer season on Wednesday April 26, and fixtures for the 1950 season are as follows:—

26th April
Brighton v South Melb.
Oakleigh v Footscray
Richmond v Preston

3rd May
Footscray v Brighton
Preston v Oakleigh
South Melb. v Richmond

10th May
Brighton v Preston
Oakleigh v Richmond
South Melb. v Footscray

24th May
Brighton v Oakleigh
South Melb. v Preston
Footscray v Richmond

31st May
Richmond v Brighton
Oakleigh v South Melb.
Preston v Footscray

7th June
South Melb. v Brighton
Footscray v Oakleigh
Preston v Richmond

14th June
Brighton v Footscray
Oakleigh v Preston
Richmond v South Melb.

21st June
Preston v Brighton
Richmond v Oakleigh
Footscray v South Melb.

28th June
Brighton v Richmond
South Melb. v Oakleigh
Footscray v Preston

12th July
Oakleigh v Brighton
Preston v South Melb.
Richmond v Footscray

NOTE.—Volunteer referees are required for the above Technical School matches. The games commence at 2 o'clock each Wednesday afternoon. Those persons who can volunteer as referees are urgently requested to contact the Secretary of the Victorian Junior Amateur Soccer Football Association, Mr. J. A. Olsen, 314 Inkerman Street, East St. Kilda, S.2. Phone: LB 1444.

Soccer

The International Football

Game is played . . .

EVERY SATURDAY

at

OLYMPIC PARK

Batman Avenue, Melbourne



LEARN FROM VICTORIA'S STARS

4—The Goalkeeper

By BILLY SINCLAIR

The goalkeeper, being the last line of defence, has probably the most responsible position on the soccer field. He must have a good understanding with his fellow defenders and have their full confidence, as he will have to extricate them from many tight corners.

The main essentials for a goalkeeper are agility and a good sense of anticipation. When saving a straight ball the hands should always be backed by the body, and the ball should be hugged into the ribs or stomach, with the elbows close in to the side. Similarly, the legs should always be closed when taking ground shots.

The cutting out of high centres and corner kicks is an important part of the goalkeeper's duties and good timing and clean fielding of the ball is the main necessity for this. There are times when the opposing forwards are in close attention and likely to charge or bustle the goalie, in which case the ball should be punched away with the fists. It is also unwise to bounce the ball too often when worried by the forwards. Corners should only be conceded as a last resort.

Every goalkeeper should learn to place his kicks as far and as accurately as possible to an un-marked team-mate, although there are occasions when a throw or short kick to a fellow-defender is more advantageous.

One of the hardest things for a goalkeeper to judge is when to run out from his goal. Normally he should only do so when he is sure of getting the ball, but there are occasions when his defence is spreadeagled and he has to make a quick dash to narrow the shooting angle and endeavor to smother the ball. Quick thinking is required in these circumstances.

In the above I have outlined the major tasks a goalie is called upon to perform. To all juniors aspiring to become proficient at goalkeeping, the main thing is constant practice with your team mates banging in shots at you, both high and low, from all angles. In training you can concentrate on high skipping, body swerving in and out of posts, short sharp sprints and place kicking.

[Billy Sinclair has kept goal for Brighton for several years. He is regarded as one of the safest keepers in Victoria. Although Billy has not yet represented Victoria, he was within an ace of doing so last season and played in all the State Trial games. Junior goalkeepers can well take note of his hints.]

JUVENTUS JUNIORS, 1, v PRESTON JUNIORS, 5—Under 19 "B" Grade
Juventus proved no match for Preston and were easily beaten. Preston were more systematic and won the match through better team work and speedier foot-

TEAM FOR TRIAL GAMES

The State selectors have chosen the following players for the first Trial game, The Possibles versus The Probables, which will take place at Olympic Park. The date and time has not been finalised, but will be announced in the next issue of "Soccer News":—

THE POSSIBLES

G.K.—Weight, Park Rangers; R.B.—Kennedy, Moreland; L.B.—Hollis, Navy; R.H.—McDougall, Brighton; C.H.—White, Sandringham; L.H.—Drennan, Sunshine; R.W.—Grix, Moreland; I.R.—Hardman, Moreland; C.F.—Stoddart, South Yarra; I.L.—Newman, JUST; L.W.—Barr, Brighton.

THE PROBABLES

G.K.—Ashworth, Prahran; R.B.—Davis, Sandringham; L.B.—Anderson, Prahran; R.H.—McDonald, Prahran; C.H.—Brown, Box Hill; L.H.—Scott, Brighton; R.W.—Wilson, Sandringham; I.R.—Bambro, Sandringham; C.F.—Another, Preston; I.L.—Lachman, Prahran; L.W.—McSeeters, Box Hill.

Reserves:—McFarlan, Prahran; Daly, Moorabbin; Holder, Box Hill; Thorington, Western Suburbs.